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HAMILTON-WENTWORTH REGIONAL  
MUNICIPALITY

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CHAIRMAN R.J. (REG) WHYNOTT

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THE HAMILTON & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1989

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS  
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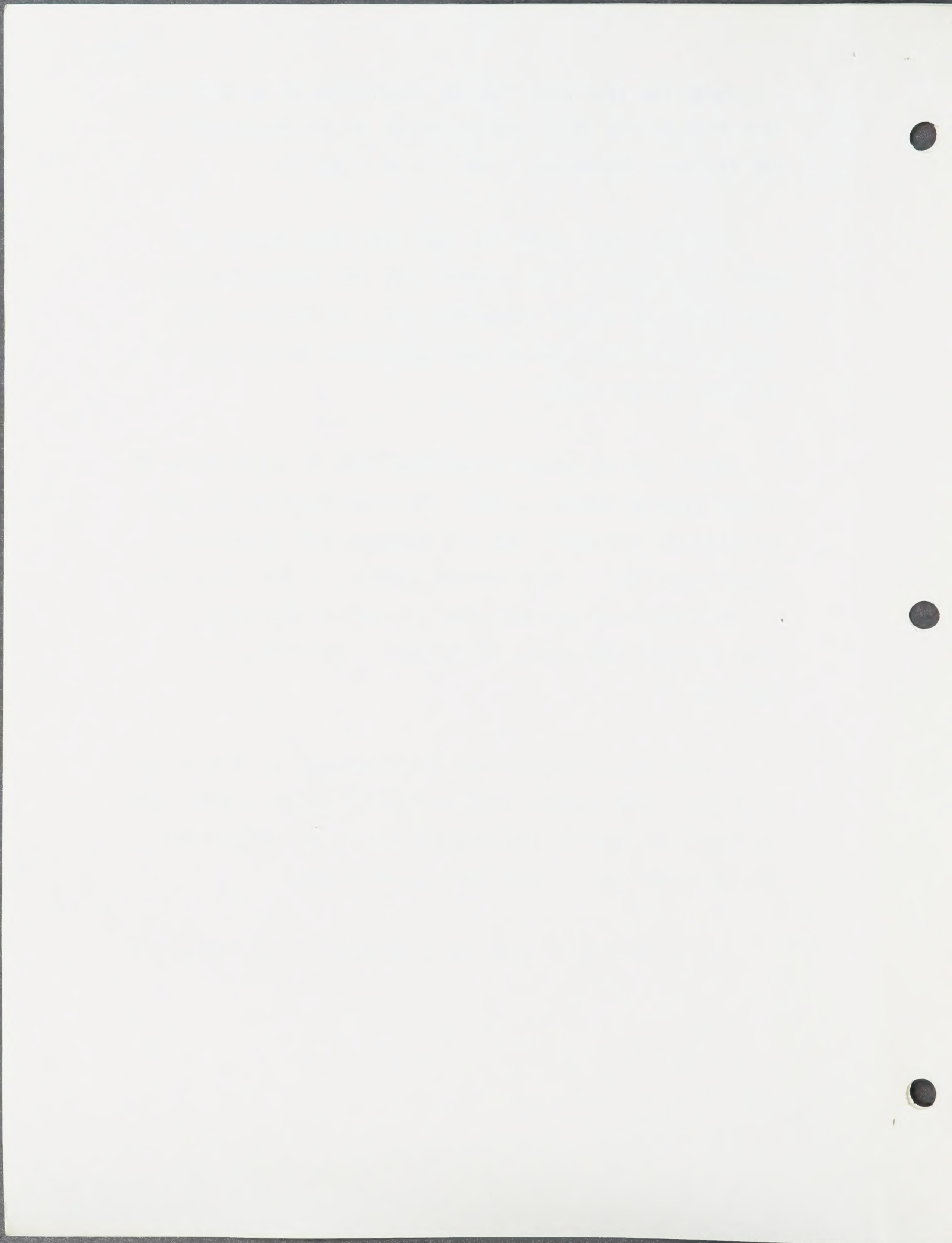
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE INVITATION TO BE WITH YOU THIS MORNING AND BRING YOU AN UPDATE ON THE SITUATION AT THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT LEVEL ... AS I SEE IT.

I'VE ONLY BEEN THERE FOR JUST OVER NINE MONTHS AND I WANT TO BE CAREFUL THAT I DON'T GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT I HAVE BECOME AN EXPERT OVERNIGHT, BUT I DO BELIEVE THAT THERE IS MUCH THAT CAN BE SAID WHICH MANY DO NOT PICK UP ON A DAY TO DAY BASIS.

FIRST, LET ME ANSWER A QUESTION THAT IS ASKED OF ME ON A VERY REGULAR BASIS ... YES, I'M STILL ENJOYING THE JOB! IT KEEPS ME VERY BUSY, AND I'M LEARNING NEW THINGS JUST ABOUT EVERY DAY ... MEETING NEW PEOPLE ... NEW CHALLENGES ... BOTH POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE ... LOTS OF MEETINGS ... BOTH BUSINESS AND SOCIAL IN NATURE ... BUT I'M STILL ENJOYING IT.

I HAVE RECEIVED EXCELLENT STAFF SUPPORT IN MY ROLE AND TO A VERY LARGE DEGREE, HAVE RECEIVED A LOT OF SUPPORT AND CO-OPERATION FROM ELECTED COLLEAGUES ... NOT ALWAYS AND NOT FROM EVERYONE ... BUT TO A LARGE DEGREE.

LET ME TRY NOW TO GIVE YOU A PERSPECTIVE ON OUR REGION.





ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

TO FULFILL THE MANDATE OF RETAINING LOCAL BUSINESS, AND ENCOURAGING EXPANSION, RELOCATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP, THIS DEPARTMENT HAS UNDERTAKEN THE FOLLOWING TASKS:

304 LOCAL BUSINESSES WERE VISITED BY STAFF IN 1988, AND A FURTHER 205 HAVE BEEN VISITED SO FAR IN 1989. IN EACH CASE, STAFF DISCUSSED AND RESPONDED TO BUSINESS CONCERNS EXPRESSED AND SOUGHT TO IDENTIFY NEW AND EXPANDING BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES. SOME REGIONAL COUNCILLORS HAVE RECENTLY TAKEN IT UPON THEMSELVES TO VISIT FIRMS THROUGHOUT THE REGION IN THE MONTHS AHEAD.

STAFF HELD SEMINARS FOR VARIOUS MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY TO EXPLAIN THE SERVICES AND SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS AFFILIATED WITH THE DEPARTMENT. STAFF AND ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES ALSO ATTENDED SEMINARS OUTSIDE THE REGION AND WERE ABLE TO MAKE PRESENTATIONS EXPLAINING SOME OF THE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE HERE.

BY ATTENDING VARIOUS TRADE SHOWS IN CANADA AND INTERNATIONALLY, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MAKE EFFECTIVE CONTACT WITH ENTREPRENEURS AND INVESTORS WHO WISH TO INVEST IN THE REGION... AND I MIGHT SAY THAT I AM IMPRESSED BY THE GROWING INTEREST IN OPPORTUNITIES HERE.

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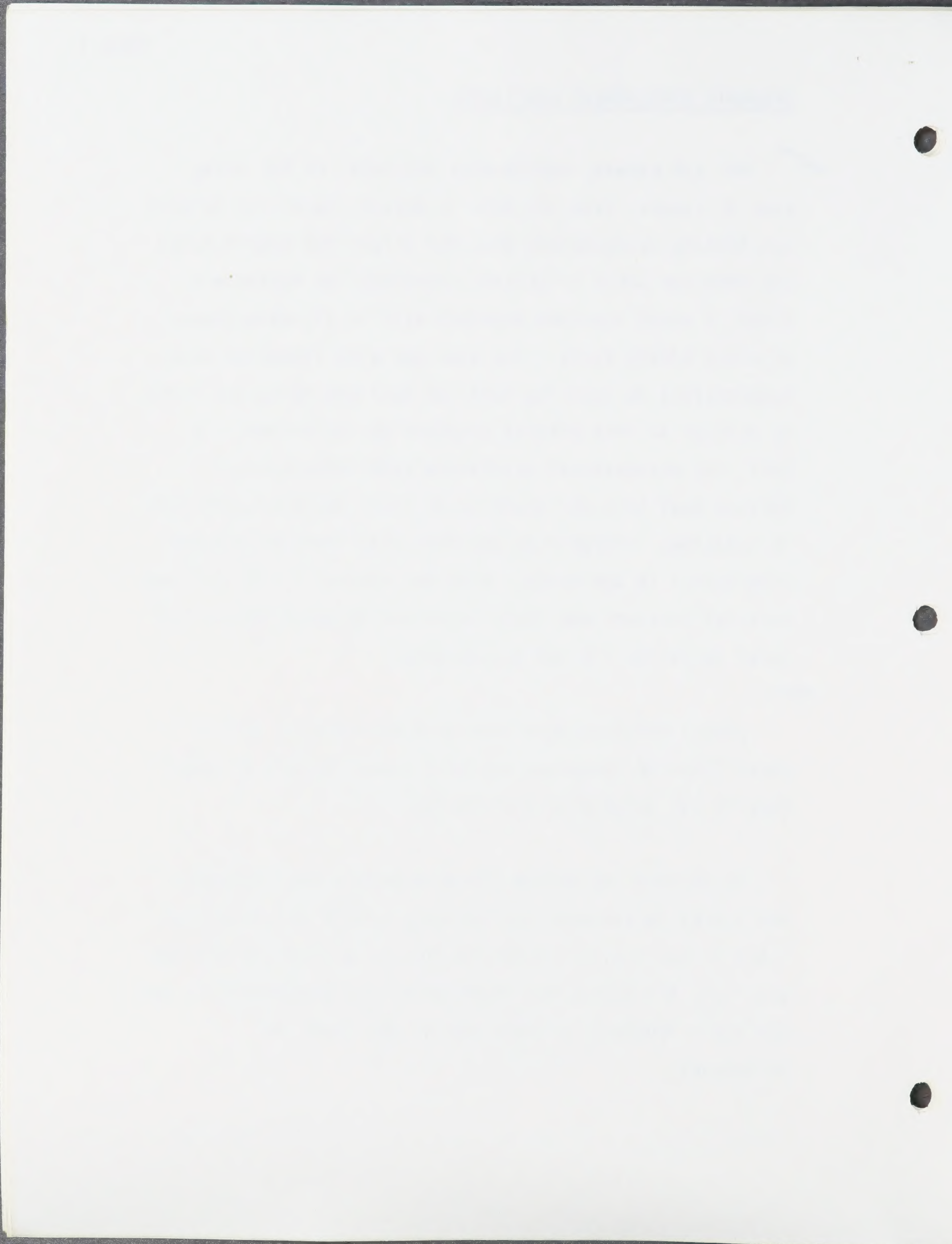
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONTINUED

MR. JIM GORMAN, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA, SAID THE MOVE TO BURLINGTON OF THE ONTARIO CORPORATION HEADQUARTERS WILL NOT AFFECT THE BANK'S PLANS FOR HAMILTON WHERE IT RECENTLY ACQUIRED THE ROBINSON'S STORE, A MAJOR DOWNTOWN PROPERTY NEXT TO ITS MAIN BRANCH ON JAMES STREET SOUTH. THE BANK HAS BEEN EXPANDING VERY AGGRESSIVELY IN HAMILTON OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS AND PLANS TO DEVELOP AN EVEN GREATER PRESENCE IN THE FUTURE. IN FACT, THE HEADQUARTERS RELOCATION FROM TORONTO WILL PROVIDE MANY SPIN-OFF BENEFITS TO LOCAL BUSINESS SUPPLIERS IN HAMILTON. "THERE'S NO QUESTION THAT HAMILTON FIGURES PROMINENTLY IN OUR PLANS," SAID MR. GORMAN. "THE CITY AND ADJACENT CORRIDOR ARE IDEAL SPOTS FOR BUSINESS AND WE SEE GREAT POTENTIAL FOR THE ENTIRE AREA."

DIRECT MAILINGS WERE CONTINUED BY STAFF TO ADVISE LOCAL FIRMS OF POTENTIAL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES AS THESE CAME TO THE DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION.

TO PROMOTE THE REGION, ADVERTISEMENTS WERE PREPARED AND PLACED IN VARIOUS PUBLICATIONS. THESE REFLECTED THE "TALE OF TWO CITIES" THEME FOR THE TORONTO MARKET AND THE NEW "TAKE A CLOSER LOOK" THEME WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF TWO NEW ADS - "DOORWAY TO OPPORTUNITY" AND "HOME OF TECHNOLOGY".







ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONTINUED

THE SMALL BUSINESS CENTRE (INCUBATOR) HAS RECEIVED FUNDING FROM THE REGION AND THE RELEVANT SUB-COMMITTEES ARE CURRENTLY SEARCHING FOR A SUITABLE LOCATION AND GENERAL MANAGER. WE HAVE CONTINUED TO LIAISE WITH THE BUSINESS ADVISORY CENTRE, THE SKILLS TRAINING ADVISORY CENTRE, AND THE LOCAL FINANCIAL COMMUNITY... AND I LOOK FORWARD TO SOME EXCITING ACTIVITY HERE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

SPECIFIC SITES ARE UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR THE PROPOSED HEALTH AND MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY BUSINESS PARK AFTER A POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM THE INITIAL FEASIBILITY STUDY. STAFF IS ASSISTING IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONFEDERATION PARK HOTEL DEVELOPMENT AND THE CANADA STEEL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTRE. AND WE ARE CONSIDERING PROPOSALS FOR THE PACIFIC CENTRE DEVELOPMENT FEASIBILITY STUDY.

I FEEL THAT THE RESULTS POINT TO A STEADY GROWTH IN THE REGION. CURRENTLY 329,000 MEN AND WOMEN ARE ACTIVE IN THE REGIONAL LABOUR FORCE. THIS REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF APPROXIMATELY 10,000 OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR. THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IS STEADY AT 6.3%.

DURING 1988, 43 NEW FIRMS ESTABLISHED IN THE REGION CREATING 745 NEW JOBS. EXISTING BUSINESS ADDED A FURTHER 1,267 JOBS FOR A TOTAL OF 2,012. SO FAR IN 1989, 42 NEW FIRMS HAVE BEEN SET UP CREATING 358 JOBS, WITH AN EXTRA 675 JOBS COMING FROM EXISTING COMPANIES.







ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONTINUEDTOURISM AND CONVENTION SERVICES DIVISION

THE MANDATE OF THE TOURISM AND CONVENTION SERVICES DIVISION IS TO INCREASE THE NUMBERS, EXPENDITURE, AND LENGTH OF STAY OF VISITORS TO THE REGION BY PROMOTING GENERAL TOURISM, CONVENTIONS, AND SPECIAL EVENTS AND I AM PLEASED TO SAY THAT EFFORTS ARE SHOWING POSITIVE RESULTS. TO ACHIEVE THIS, STAFF AND POLITICIANS HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

WITH THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A POSITIVE AWARENESS OF THE REGION'S ATTRACTIONS, WE HAVE DEVELOPED A PROGRAM OF ADVERTISING IN THE PRIMARY MARKET AREAS. A SIMILAR MESSAGE HAS BEEN SENT OUT TO CONVENTION ORGANIZERS ACROSS NORTH AMERICA.

MANY DIRECT INITIATIVES HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKEN WHICH INCLUDE SUCH THINGS AS THE TOURISM AWARENESS WEEK FRONT-LINE HOSPITALITY RECEPTION, A WORLDWIDE POSTCARD PROMOTION, BROCHURE DISTRIBUTION, TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE ACTIVITIES, FAMILIARIZATION TOURS, ATTENDANCE AT TRADE FAIRS, ETC. THE CONVENTION SALES SUPPORT INCLUDES AUDIO VISUAL PRESENTATIONS, THE CONVENTION AMBASSADOR AWARDS RECEPTION, CONVENTION BIDDING AND SERVICING, ETC.

I CAN REPORT THAT RESULTS ARE VERY POSITIVE WITH OVER A HUNDRED CONVENTIONS SO FAR THIS YEAR COMPARED WITH HALF THAT NUMBER FOR THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR. 32,000 DELEGATES WERE IN ATTENDANCE GENERATING AN ESTIMATED \$60 MILLION IN LOCAL REVENUE... NEW MONEY IN THE COMMUNITY!







TRANSPORTATIONPUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

ALTHOUGH YOU HAVE HEARD LITTLE FROM THE PROVINCE OR GO TRANSIT WITH RESPECT TO THE EXPANSION OF RAIL SERVICE TO HAMILTON, I AM PLEASED TO ADVISE THAT STAFF AND A TEAM OF CONSULTANTS HAVE BEEN WORKING FEVERISHLY TO COMPLETE THE NECESSARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS WITH RESPECT TO THE DECISIONS MADE BY THE VARIOUS MUNICIPALITIES. YOU WILL RECALL THAT THERE WAS OVERWHELMING SUPPORT FOR A DOWNTOWN TERMINUS AT THE TH&B STATION AND A SUBURBAN TERMINUS AT WATERDOWN ROAD ALONG HIGHWAY 403. I AM ALSO PLEASED TO ADVISE THAT ALL OF THE TECHNICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION. IT IS INTENDED THAT THE PROVINCE WILL PROCEED WITH THIS PROJECT IN ITS NEXT FIVE YEAR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM... BUT WITH YOUR CONTINUED HELP AND REGULAR REMINDERS SUCH AS LAST MONTH'S EDITORIAL IN PANORAMA ... I'M CONVINCED WE CAN ACCELERATE THE PROCESS SOMEWHAT.

ON THE LOCAL TRANSIT SCENE, THE HSR HAS NOT HAD A REALLY GOOD YEAR... DECLINING RIDERSHIP IS CONTINUING TO PLAGUE THE SYSTEM. HOWEVER, AS GASOLINE PRICES GO UP, MORTGAGE RATES GO UP, BUILDINGS EXPAND AND THE SYSTEM EXPANDS WITH GROWTH, THE CHANCES ARE THAT RIDERSHIP WILL REMAIN STABLE AND SHOW A MODEST GROWTH. ON THE POSITIVE SIDE, VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE HSR'S PROJECTS AND STRATEGIES ARE COMING IN ON BUDGET AND AHEAD OF SCHEDULE.







TRANSPORTATION CONTINUED

A MANAGEMENT REVIEW AND AUDIT WAS UNDERTAKEN IN 1988 AND GAVE THE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF THE HSR A RESOUNDING VOTE OF CONFIDENCE. COUNCIL WAS PLEASED WITH THE FINDING, PERMITTING THE OPERATION TO GET ON WITH BUSINESS.

ADDITIONALLY, REGIONAL COUNCIL HAS RECENTLY CONFIRMED THE DECISION TO RETAIN THE TROLLEY SYSTEM AND, IN FACT, EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF EXPANDING IT.





FREEWAY PROJECT

MOUNTAIN EAST-WEST AND NORTH-SOUTH TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR  
PROJECT

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECT IS PROCEEDING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCHEDULE SET OUT IN JANUARY 1988.

THE PRELIMINARY DESIGN OF THE ENTIRE PROJECT WAS ESSENTIALLY COMPLETED IN JULY OF THIS YEAR. A FINAL SUMMARY REPORT WILL BE PRESENTED TO COUNCIL IN NOVEMBER DETAILING CONSTRUCTION STAGING, OVERALL BASELINE BUDGET AND AN UPDATED FINANCING PLAN.

DETAILED DESIGN ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE INITIAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS WERE AWARDED IN JULY OF THIS YEAR. THE PLANNED CONTRACTS TO BE AWARDED IN MARCH OF 1990 INCLUDE:

- REALIGNMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF KING STREET;
- CONSTRUCTION OF QUEENSTON ROAD INTERCHANGE;
- CONSTRUCTION OF THE MOHAWK/GOLFLINKS ROAD CONNECTION IN ANCASTER; AND
- THE C.P. (T.H. & B.) GRADE SEPARATION.

TOTAL ESTIMATED VALUE OF THESE CONTRACTS IS \$20.0 M.





FREEWAY CONTINUED

IN PARALLEL WITH THE ENGINEERING INVESTIGATIONS, CONSIDERABLE WORK HAS BEEN COMPLETED OR IS IN PROGRESS TO ADDRESS THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROJECT. THE STUDIES INCLUDE NOISE AND AIR QUALITY MONITORING SYSTEMS, LANDSCAPING/EROSION CONTROL, AND CO-ORDINATION WITH THE CITY OF HAMILTON IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A RECREATION MASTER PLAN FOR THE REMAINING VALLEY LANDS. AS MENTIONED, THE PROJECT IS "ON TARGET" AND THIS POSITIVE NEWS IS BEGINNING TO BE BELIEVED BY MANY WHO HAVE WAITED FOR SO LONG TO SEE IT HAPPEN.

INSERT - (PERIMETER ROAD COMMENT)





FINANCE

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING, IT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN A PRETTY BUSY YEAR. MAYBE IT'S ALWAYS LIKE THAT.

IN JANUARY, WE RECEIVED WORD FROM THE CANADIAN BOND RATING SERVICE THAT THE REGION'S CREDIT RATING WAS BEING UPGRADED TO "AAA". THIS IS THE HIGHEST RATING ANY ORGANIZATION CAN RECEIVE, WHICH MEANS THE REGION IS AN EXCELLENT CREDIT RISK. IN ASSESSING THE REGION'S CREDIT RATING, THE AGENCY CITED THE EXCELLENT FINANCIAL POSITION, COMPETITIVE TAX RATES, LOW USER FEES AND THE DIVERSIFYING ECONOMY. WE'VE MOVED UP GRADUALLY FROM A "AA" AND THE CHALLENGE NOW IS TO MAKE SURE THAT WE STAY AT THE "AAA" LEVEL.

EARLIER THIS YEAR, REGIONAL COUNCIL APPROVED ITS CAPITAL BUDGET FOR 1989-1993, AND AT \$647 MILLION IT WAS OUR LARGEST EVER. THIS REFLECTS THE ESSENTIAL WORK NEEDED TO MAINTAIN OUR INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENHANCE OUR TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM... AND THERE REALLY ARE NO FRILLS. I'M SURE YOU WOULD AGREE WITH THE NEED FOR THESE PROJECTS, ALTHOUGH MAYBE NOT THE NECESSARY TRAFFIC CONSTRICTIONS WHILE THE WORK IS UNDERWAY.





FINANCE CONTINUED

OUR OPERATING BUDGET, ALSO OUR LARGEST EVER, USED A GRADUALLY IMPROVING PROCESS FOR PRIORITY SETTING AND BALANCING PROGRAM NEEDS AGAINST COST CONSTRAINTS. ACTUALLY, THIS YEAR HAMILTON-WENTWORTH ENDED UP WITH ONE OF THE LOWEST REGIONAL LEVY INCREASES IN ONTARIO, 6.1% OVERALL. ALTHOUGH SLIGHTLY ABOVE INFLATION, IT HAD TO HANDLE SOME PROGRAM EXPANSIONS AND A FREEZE IN PROVINCIAL GRANTS WHICH ADDED ABOUT 1 1/2% TO THE LEVY. THE CUTBACKS IN FUNDING FROM THE PROVINCE AND FEDERAL LEVELS WILL CREATE SOME SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR US IN THE YEARS AHEAD UNLESS WE CAN CHANGE THEIR THINKING, WHICH WON'T BE EASY. (POLICING OF COURTS)

WE WERE PARTICULARLY PLEASED THAT FOR THE FOURTH YEAR IN A ROW THE REGION AGAIN RECEIVED THE GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA'S AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED BUDGET PRESENTATION. NOT MANY MUNICIPALITIES IN CANADA HAVE ACHIEVED THIS AWARD AND HAMILTON-WENTWORTH WAS ONE OF THE FIRST.

INTERNALLY, THE REGION CONTINUES TO ADOPT THE MOST UP-TO-DATE TECHNOLOGY FOR PROCESSING THE VAST QUANTITIES OF INFORMATION THAT GO THROUGH THE FINANCE SIDE OF THE ORGANIZATION.





FINANCE CONTINUED

WE'VE INSTALLED ONLINE SYSTEMS FOR FINANCIAL CONTROL AND REPORTING TO MAKE SURE THAT ALL DEPARTMENTS STAY ON TOP OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION. AS YOU ARE WELL AWARE, IT'S PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN GOVERNMENT TO TIGHTLY CONTROL EXPENDITURES AT ALL TIMES BECAUSE OUR REVENUE SOURCES ARE FIXED AND ANY OVERSPENDING COULD CREATE A DEFICIT. I WOULD ADD THAT THIS REGION HAS NEVER HAD A DEFICIT IN ITS 15 YEARS OF EXISTENCE AND IN 1988 MANAGED A \$3.5 MILLION SURPLUS WHICH WAS APPLIED TO HELP KEEP DOWN THE TAXES IN THE 1989 BUDGET.

LOOKING AHEAD A LITTLE BIT, WE ARE UPDATING OUR FINANCIAL PLANS PRIOR TO GOING INTO THE 1990 BUDGET AND PLANNING PROCESS; POLISHING UP OUR CREDIT RATING SUBMISSIONS AGAIN TO MAKE SURE WE KEEP THE "AAA" RATING; AND GETTING READY FOR A DEBENTURE ISSUE TO HELP FINANCE OUR CAPITAL EXPENDITURES AS WELL AS OBTAIN CAPITAL FOR THE AREA MUNICIPALITIES AND THE SCHOOL BOARDS. LIKE ALL OTHER GOVERNMENT, WE TRY TO DO AS LITTLE BORROWING AS WE HAVE TO. HOWEVER, UNLESS WE WANT TO RAISE TAXES SEVERELY, WE HAVE TO DO SOME AND IT'S IMPORTANT THAT WE DO IT AT THE RIGHT TIME, AND THE RIGHT MARKET, TO GET THE BEST RATES. OUR RECORD ON THIS IS PRETTY GOOD AS THE INTEREST RATE ON OUR LAST TWO DEBENTURE ISSUES WAS BELOW 10%.





PLANNING DEPARTMENT

AT THE PRESENT TIME, WE DO HAVE A VERY HEALTHY LOCAL ECONOMY.

- THE ASSESSMENT IN THE REGION HAS EXPANDED BY 14.2% BETWEEN 1981 AND 1988, WITH RESIDENTIAL GROWTH OUTPACING ALL OTHER SECTORS.
- THERE HAS BEEN A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN LABOUR FORCE BETWEEN 1981 AND 1986 (20.5%).
- THE TOTAL VALUE OF BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED BETWEEN 1981 AND 1988 INCREASED BY APPROXIMATELY 200%.
- IN THE PAST THREE-AND-A-HALF YEARS WE HAVE DRAFT APPROVED OVER 10,000 UNITS IN SUBDIVISION AND CONDOMINIUM PLANS.





PLANNING CONTINUED

FROM A PLANNING PERSPECTIVE, OUR PROJECTIONS INDICATE THAT THIS HEALTHY GROWTH WILL CONTINUE.

- HAMILTON-WENTWORTH'S POPULATION IS FORECAST TO INCREASE BY APPROXIMATELY 50,000 PERSONS OR 12.5% BY THE YEAR 2006 AND GIVEN HIGH RATES OF FERTILITY AND MIGRATION, COULD BE AS HIGH AS A TOTAL POPULATION OF 511,000.
- THE NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS IN THE REGION DURING THIS TIME PERIOD IS PROJECTED TO INCREASE FROM 161,000 TO 193,000.

A NUMBER OF KEY PLANNING REPORTS HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKEN THIS YEAR WHICH WILL STRENGTHEN OUR HAND IN THE FUTURE, FOR INSTANCE:

- AIRPORT PLANNING - A DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE HAMILTON AIRPORT OUTLINING LAND DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVES AND IDENTIFYING OPPORTUNITIES HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR THE SPECIAL AIRPORT COMMITTEE.





PLANNING CONTINUED

- AN INDUSTRIAL SERVICING POLICY STUDY HAS BEEN ADOPTED BY COUNCIL LAYING OUT A PLAN INCLUDING OBJECTIVES, CRITERIA, PRIORITIES FOR FUNDING AND A MONITORING STRATEGY.
- A SERIES OF STUDIES TO QUANTIFY HOUSING AND LAND NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE REGION HAVE COMMENCED FOR CONSIDERATION BY COUNCIL IN 1990.
- THE REGION HAS ADOPTED FAST TRACKING PROCEDURES WITH RESPECT TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING, INCLUDING PROVISIONS FOR THE DELEGATION OF APPROVAL OF SUBDIVISIONS AND CONDOMINIUMS, AS WELL AS PART-LOT CONTROL, TO THE ADMINISTRATION.
- AS PROMISED, WE DO HAVE A TASK FORCE ON HOUSING COMING ON STREAM VERY SHORTLY AND THEY WILL HAVE MAJOR INPUT INTO OUR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE.



ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

AS YOU ARE PROBABLY AWARE, THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN EXTREMELY BUSY WITH THE REGION'S ANNUAL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM. IN 1989 THE REGION WILL TENDER APPROXIMATELY 60 PROJECTS AT A TOTAL VALUE OF \$60,000,000.00. THESE TENDERS CONSIST OF:

a) ROADWORKS (New, reconstruction, rehabilitation)	\$21,000,000.00
CITY OF HAMILTON	\$10,000,000.00
b) WATER WORKS	\$ 5,000,000.00
c) STORM & SANITARY SEWERS	\$18,000,000.00
d) INDUSTRIAL LAND SERVICING	\$ 1,000,000.00
e) HOMES FOR THE AGED	\$ 5,500,000.00
f) EXPANSION AT HAMILTON AIRPORT	\$ 300,000.00

THIS IS THE THIRD YEAR OF OUR ACCELERATED ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAM. THIS YEAR THE MAJOR PROJECT FROM THIS PROGRAM IS THE RECONSTRUCTION OF KING STREET FROM THE DELTA TO MARY STREET. THIS PROJECT IS ON SCHEDULE AND ON BUDGET AND WILL BE FULLY RE-OPENED TO THE PUBLIC IN LATE SEPTEMBER. LAST YEAR OUR MAJOR ROADWAY PROJECT WAS BARTON STREET FROM JAMES STREET TO KENILWORTH AVENUE. NEXT YEAR WE LOOK FORWARD TO RE-BUILDING MAIN STREET FROM HADDON AVENUE IN WESTDALE THROUGH TO JAMES STREET. THIS PROJECT WILL BE THE BIGGEST PUBLIC RELATIONS CHALLENGE YET FOR OUR ENGINEERS.





ENGINEERING CONTINUED

ANOTHER VERY SIGNIFICANT PROJECT WHICH THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT WILL COMPLETE IN 1989 IS THE EXTENSION OF FULL SEWER SERVICES TO OUR AIRPORT. THIS PROJECT WILL NOT ONLY PROVIDE FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT THE AIRPORT, BUT ALSO WILL OPEN THE DOOR FOR NEW COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT ALONG THE HIGHWAY 6 CORRIDOR ENROUTE TO THE AIRPORT.

THE MEADOWLANDS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LOCATED NEAR THE MOHAWK ROAD/HWY 403 INTERCHANGE GOT UNDERWAY IN 1989 AND PHASE ONE WILL BE COMPLETED LATER THIS FALL. THIS DEVELOPMENT WILL BE A MAJOR GROWTH AREA IN THE REGION OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL FRONT, REGIONAL COUNCIL HAS BEEN MAKING NOTABLE PROGRESS. AS PROMISED, A NEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AND IS NOW MEETING MONTHLY TO DEVELOP STRATEGIES ON ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IS UNDOUBTABLY THE NUMBER ONE ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE FOR THE 90'S.





ENGINEERING CONTINUED

IN KEEPING WITH THE MANDATE ESTABLISHED BY COUNCIL, AND MY OWN PERSONAL OBJECTIVE, THE REGION CONTINUES TO STRIVE TO REDUCE ITS DEPENDENCY ON LANDFILLING FOR WASTE DISPOSAL, BY DEVELOPING MORE ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND, VIABLE, AND COST-EFFECTIVE WASTE PROCESSING METHODS.

INCLUDED IN THE CURRENT WASTE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES ARE:

- A) OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS TO SWARU, THE REGION'S SOLID WASTE INCINERATOR, WHICH WILL PERMIT ADDITIONAL WASTE TO BE PROCESSED. THE CURRENT PROCESS IS APPROXIMATELY 100,000 TONS ANNUALLY. THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS COMBINED WITH AN EXTENSION OF THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE FROM A FIVE DAY TO A SIX DAY OPERATION COULD INCREASE THE ANNUAL WASTE THROUGHPUT BY 20%.
  
- B) MULTI-MATERIAL RECYCLING OF HOUSEHOLD WASTE USING THE BLUE-BOX PROGRAM IS BEING MAXIMIZED TO INCLUDE ALL REGIONAL SINGLE DWELLINGS, APARTMENT BUILDINGS AND SCHOOLS. OPTIMISTIC GROWTH EXPECTATIONS INDICATE A POTENTIAL INCREASE OF RECYCLABLES TO 25,000 TONS ANNUALLY BY THE END OF 1990.



ENGINEERING CONTINUED

- C) REGIONAL STAFF ARE CURRENTLY NEGOTIATING A COST-SHARING AGREEMENT WITH PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS TO DEVELOP A \$3 MILLION WASTE COMPOSTING PILOT PROJECT, WHICH WILL CONVERT RESIDENTIAL WASTE, AND SLUDGE FROM THE DUNDAS SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT TO A COMPOST MATERIAL SUITABLE FOR SOIL ENRICHMENT AND CONDITIONING FOR A VARIETY OF AGRICULTURAL APPLICATIONS.
  
- D) THE "HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM" OFFERED BY THE REGION TO PROVIDE REGIONAL HOUSEHOLDERS WITH AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SAFE WAY TO DISPOSE OF HAZARDOUS WASTES, CONTINUES TO INCREASE IN POPULARITY AND IS BEING EXPANDED TO SUIT THE DEMANDS OF THIS SERVICE.
  
- E) ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND GENERAL WASTE MANAGEMENT EDUCATION IS BEING ACCOMPLISHED BY THE USE OF COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL PROMOTIONAL PROGRAM WHICH INVOLVES A REGULAR "WASTE MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER", USE OF THE NEWS MEDIUM FOR REPORTING SIGNIFICANT WASTE MANAGEMENT EVENTS OR SERVICES, LIBERAL DISSEMINATION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION, AN AMBITIOUS INDUSTRIAL WASTE EXCHANGE PROGRAM, AND A WIDELY PUBLICIZED "WASTE MANAGEMENT TELEPHONE HOT-LINE".





ENGINEERING CONTINUED

I AM CONFIDENT THAT WITH THE SUPPORT OF REGIONAL COUNCIL, AND THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF OUR REGIONAL RESIDENTS OUR WELL-EARNED REPUTATION AS THE PROVINCE'S LEADER IN WASTE MANAGEMENT WILL CONTINUE TO PROPAGATE, AND OUR AMBITIOUS LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES TO REDUCE LANDFILL DEPENDENCY WILL BE ACHIEVED.

ANOTHER KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE FOR THIS COMMUNITY OVER THE NEXT DECADE WILL THE REHABILITATION OF HAMILTON HARBOUR. THE CLEAN-UP OF WINDERMERE BASIN IS ALREADY UNDERWAY AND WHEN COMPLETED NEXT YEAR WILL ELIMINATE ONE OF OUR WORST ENVIRONMENTAL "HOT SPOTS". HOWEVER, THIS PROJECT IS ONLY A SMALL BEGINNING TOWARDS THE LARGER OBJECTIVE OF REHABILITATION OF THE ENTIRE HARBOUR. THE HAMILTON HARBOUR REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN WILL BE RELEASED LATER THIS YEAR AND WILL IDENTIFY A STRATEGY FOR ACHIEVING THIS AMBITIOUS GOAL OVER THE NEXT DECADE. THE COST OF THIS INITIATIVE WILL BE VERY HIGH TO ALL THREE LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT INVOLVED IN THIS PROJECT, BUT THE PAYBACK IN TERMS OF QUALITY OF LIFE AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OF OUR COMMUNITY IS IMMEASURABLE.





THE BOUYANT LOCAL ECONOMY EXPERIENCED THROUGHOUT 1988 AND INTO 1989 HAS POSITIVELY AFFECTED OUR GENERAL WELFARE CASELOAD. FOR THE FOURTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR FEWER OF OUR RESIDENTS NEEDED SOCIAL ASSISTANCE. SPECIFICALLY, A 7% DECREASE WAS RECORDED IN 1988 COMPARED TO 1987 IN THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE ON WELFARE. IN FACT WE HAD THE LOWEST NUMBER OF RESIDENTS RECEIVING WELFARE ASSISTANCE IN AUGUST 1988 SINCE AUGUST OF 1982. THE GENERAL REDUCTION IN CASELOAD HAS CONTINUED INTO 1989 WITH AN AVERAGE DECREASE OF 4.5% TO THE END OF JULY COMPARED TO THE 1988 FIGURES.

DURING 1987 AND 1988 THE REGION WAS VERY ACTIVE IN PROVIDING INPUT IN THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT'S REVIEW OF THE SOCIAL SERVICE SYSTEM IN ONTARIO. I WAS PLEASED TO HEAR THE RECENT ANNOUNCEMENTS MADE BY THE MINISTER OF COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES REGARDING IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SOCIAL SERVICES STRUCTURE. MANY OF THE REGION'S RECOMMENDATIONS WERE ADDRESSED BY THESE PROPOSED CHANGES. SPECIFICALLY, THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ADDRESS OUR CONCERNS REGARDING SUPPORTS TO PEOPLE WHO ARE TRYING TO LEAVE THE SOCIAL SERVICE SYSTEM AND PROVIDING SUFFICIENT BENEFITS TO RECIPIENTS FOR THEIR HOUSING NEEDS. MORE AND MORE OF OUR SOCIAL SERVICE ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS ARE SPENDING A GREATER PORTION OF THEIR ALLOWANCES TO MEET THEIR HOUSING NEEDS. HOPEFULLY THE ANNOUNCED INCREASES WILL PREVENT WELFARE RECIPIENTS FROM HAVING TO RELY SO HEAVILY ON THE FOOD BANKS IN OUR COMMUNITIES.



SOCIAL SERVICE CONTINUED

I SHOULD POINT OUT THAT ALTHOUGH THE REGION APPLAUDS THE EFFORTS OF THE PROVINCE IN THE REFORM OF THE SOCIAL SERVICE SYSTEM, THERE WILL BE SOME COST IMPLICATIONS TO THE REGIONAL TAX-PAYER. UNTIL THE ISSUE OF COST-SHARING FOR SOCIAL SERVICES BETWEEN THE PROVINCE AND THE MUNICIPALITIES IS RESOLVED, THE REGION WILL STILL HAVE TO PAY OUR 20% FOR ALL REFORMS... MANY OF WHICH ARE BEING LEGISLATED WITHOUT... IN OUR OPINION... SUFFICIENT INPUT FROM THE COMMUNITY LEVEL.

WITH THE PROJECTED INCREASE IN OUR SENIORS POPULATION AND RECOGNIZING THAT WE REQUIRE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE NEEDS OF OUR SENIORS, WE RECENTLY COMPLETED A STUDY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DISTRICT HEALTH COUNCIL. OVER 40 RECOMMENDATIONS WERE MADE REGARDING SENIORS' HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICE NEEDS. THESE ARE CURRENTLY BEING ADDRESSED BY VARIOUS GROUPS IN THE COMMUNITY WITH A VIEW TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION.

OUR TWO REGIONAL HOMES FOR THE AGED HAVE COMMENCED EXTENSIVE RENOVATIONS AS WE HOPE TO MAKE BOTH MACASSA AND WENTWORTH LODGES READY FOR THE NEXT CENTURY.

RECENTLY THE PROVINCE ANNOUNCED A REVIEW TO THE WHOLE LONG-TERM CARE SYSTEM IN ONTARIO. WE AT THE REGION HAVE DEMONSTRATED OUR COMMITMENT TO HELPING OUR SENIORS HAVE THE TYPE OF CARE THEY DESERVE. WE WILL BE ONLY TOO WILLING TO PROVIDE INPUT INTO SUCH A REVIEW TO ENSURE OUR RESIDENTS WILL BE ASSURED OF CONTINUED QUALITY HOME SUPPORTS AND CARE.





AIRPORT

I HAVE SPECIFICALLY LEFT THIS ITEM UNTIL NOW AS I AM AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS FACILITY TO THE FUTURE OF OUR COMMUNITY AND TO YOU... AS INDICATED BY YOUR POSITION RELEASED JUST YESTERDAY.

LET ME MAKE ONE THING VERY CLEAR ABOUT THE AIRPORT. OVER THESE PAST FEW MONTHS... I... AND SEVERAL OTHER PEOPLE HAVE SPENT A LOT OF TIME AND EFFORT WORKING TO MAKE THIS A VIABLE... AND VALUABLE OPERATION. THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE OF THE REGION HAVE BENT OVER BACKWARDS TO ACCOMMODATE ANY PERSONS INTERESTED OR PROVIDING DESIRED SERVICES AND IN SOME CASES... CANADIAN AIRLINES AND ALLEGHENY (U.S. AIR)... IT IS PROVING TO BE MOST SUCCESSFUL.

THE WITHDRAWAL OF NATIONAIR WAS... TO SAY THE LEAST... A MOST UNFORTUNATE SURPRISE... AND A DECISION TAKEN BY NATIONAIR... FOR THEIR OWN REASONS. THE CO-OPERATION EXTENDED TO THEM LOCALLY AND JOINTLY WITH THE HON. SHIRLEY MARTIN... WHO HAS WORKED DILIGENTLY AND IN GOOD FAITH WITH US... WAS SECOND TO NONE... AND, AS I SAID, WE WERE CERTAINLY DISAPPOINTED.

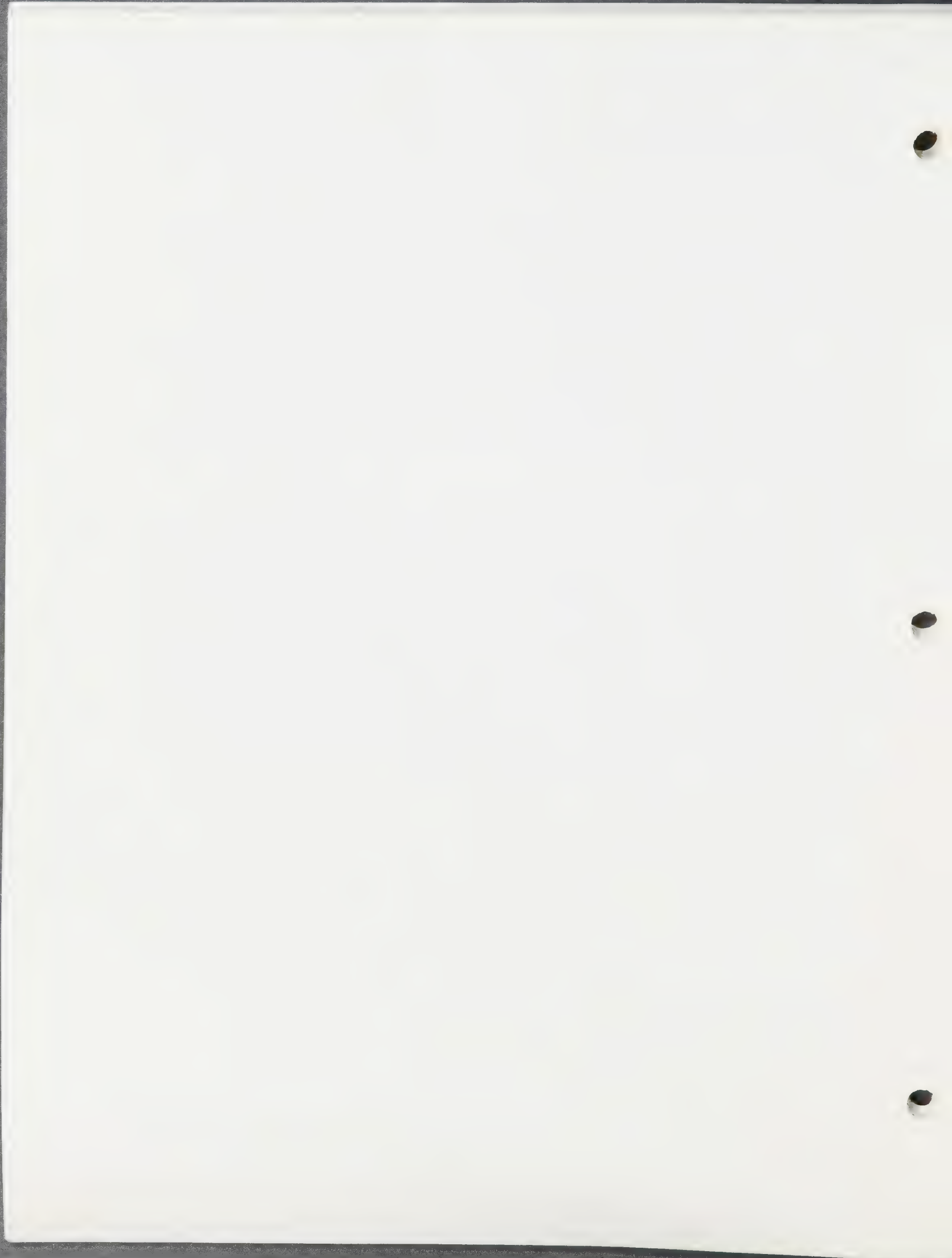




AIRPORT CONTINUED

HOWEVER, LET ME SAY THAT FOR EVERY DOOR THAT CLOSES, ANOTHER ONE... OR MORE... OPENS, AND WE WILL BE HAVING SERIOUS DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER AIRLINES WHO HAVE COME FORWARD TO ASK FOR MEETINGS WITH US. IN THE MONTHS AHEAD, WE WILL HAVE ADDITIONAL CHARTER SERVICES... A NUMBER OF THEM... AND I ALSO EXPECT SOME IMPROVEMENTS IN OUR REGULAR SCHEDULES AS WELL.

WHETHER OR NOT THE AIRPORT CONTINUES UNDER THE PRESENT SYSTEM OR UNDER YOUR PROPOSAL, REMAINS TO BE SEEN BUT I CAN PROMISE YOU THIS... WE ARE GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION AND WE WILL BE ON THE AIRLINES MAP OF THE NEXT YEAR OR SO... BUT WE WILL DO IT WITH A PLAN TO ENSURE THAT WE PROVIDE SERVICE TO THE AREA WITHOUT BECOMING ANOTHER PEARSON... EVEN ON A REDUCED SCALE.



SUMMARY

IN SUMMARY, I BELIEVE WE ARE DOING MANY THINGS RIGHT IN THE REGION AT THE PRESENT TIME AND WE DO HAVE A PROMISING FUTURE. IT WON'T BE EASY BUT WITH CO-OPERATION AT THE REGIONAL COUNCIL LEVEL, AND WITH THE SUPPORT OF ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, WE WILL CONTINUE TO BE A GOOD PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY... PERHAPS WE'LL EVEN BE A BETTER PLACE!

*(PROCLAMATION)*

THANK YOU!



The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been  
in the office of the Secretary of the Board of Education since  
the first of January, 1900, to the first of January, 1901.  
At the present time, the names of the persons who have been  
in the office of the Secretary of the Board of Education since  
the first of January, 1901, to the first of January, 1902,  
are as follows:

*John W. Smith*

John W. Smith



1878  
Wood



Hilroy  
12580